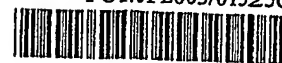


Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT/JP2003/015256



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference NE-70142WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/JP2003/015256	International filing date (day/month/year) 28 November 2003 (28.11.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 29 November 2002 (29.11.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B01D 57/00, 57/02, B03C 5/00, B01D 69/00, G01N 27/26, 37/00, 1/40		
Applicant NEC CORPORATION		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.

☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the report
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 28 November 2003 (28.11.2003)	Date of completion of this report 26 October 2004 (26.10.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (July 1998)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2003/015256

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☐ the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the claims:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the drawings:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig. _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/JP 03/15256

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-15, 20-32	YES
	Claims	16-19	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-15, 20-32	YES
	Claims	16-19	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-32	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1 cited in the international search report indicates that one fluid passage and other fluid passages are positioned adjacent to one another with a porous sheet (filter) interposed therebetween, and substances in a liquid are moved between passages with a difference in pressure. Document 2 cited in the international search report indicates that an electrode is positioned in the recessed portion which forms part of the liquid passage, and the effect of the different polarity between a specific component in the liquid (protein, for example) and the electrode makes the specific component migrate to the recessed portion, effectively depositing the specific component on the electrode in the recessed portion.

Taking the aforementioned facts into account, document 1 discloses an inventions corresponding to the inventions set forth in claims 16 to 18 of this application, and document 2 discloses an invention corresponding to the invention set forth in claim 19 of this application.

The inventions set forth in claims 1 to 15 and 20 to 32 are not disclosed in documents 1 to 5, and would not be obvious to a person skilled in the art, and it would not be easy for a person skilled in the art to derive these inventions in the light of said documents.

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International application No.

PCT/JP 03/15256

Document 1: WO 96/12540 A1

Document 2: JP 11-311616 A

Document 3: JP 2001-281233 A

Document 4: WO 89/06280 A1

Document 5: JP 7-330797 A